SEP 2 7 2004



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named

Inventor : Alexander S. Podkolzin et al.

Appln. No.: 09/879,841

Filed : June 12, 2001

For : METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR

OPTIMIZING THE TIMING OF

INTEGRATED CIRCUITS

Docket No.: 00-684/L13.12-0141

Group Art Unit: 2825

Examiner: Thuan V. Do

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER IS BEING SENT BY U.S. MAIL, FIRST CLASS, TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, THIS

23 day of 2

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PATENT ATTORNEY

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated June 23, 2004. Please amend the above-identified application as follows.